



*Celebrating
10 Years!*

Commission Members.

The members of the Commission are appointed by the governor for 3-year terms.
The current members are:

- **Peter H. Taylor**, Chair, Belfast
Program Officer, Maine Community Foundation
- **Paula Gagnon**, Vice Chair, Wells
Vice President of Academic & Student Affairs, York County Community College
- **Lynda Rohman**, Vice Chair, Bangor
Director of Volunteer Services, Eastern Maine Health Care
- **Judi Stebbins**, Secretary, Winthrop
Speech Therapist, Griffith Associates
- **Denyse M. Anderson**, Topsham
Human Resources Administrator, Wright Pierce
- **Susan Cheesman**, Ex-officio, Concord, NH
Maine State Program Officer, Corporation for National Service (CNCS)
- **Quenten Clark**, Farmington
Superintendent of Schools, MSAD #58
- **Rae Clark-McGrath**, Cape Elizabeth
Board Member: Foster Grandparents, Senior Companion Program
- **Art Cleaves**, Wayne
Director, Maine Emergency Management Agency
- **Peter Crockett**, Chelsea
Community Services Liaison, Maine Labor Group on Health, ME AFL-CIO
- **Chip (Glenn) Curry**, Knox
VISTA Project Supervisor, Communities for Children
- **Randall Curtis**, Morrill
- **Gregory DeWitt**, Litchfield
Clinical Field Supervisor, Merrymeeting Behavioral Health Associates
- **CarolAnne Dube**, Fort Kent
Director: Development & Community Relations, Northern Maine Medical Center
- **Christine Force**, Portland
- **J. Alexander Hildebrand**, Portland
Executive Director, Maine Chapter Academy of Pediatrics
- **Sherri L. Mitchell**, Edinburg
- **Amy Nunan**, Hallowell
Project Director, Getting Healthy
- **Elisa Porter**, Oakland
Insurance Agent, GHM Agency
- **Walter Rosen**, Brunswick
Retired, National Academy of Sciences
- **Susanne W. Sandusky**, Immediate Past Chair, Mapleton
Special Projects Manager, Aroostook Community Action Program
- **E. Frederick Schlutt, Jr.**, Old Town
4-H Foundation Director & Specialist, University of Maine Cooperative Extension Service
- **Al Smith**, Bath
City of Bath Community Development
- **Victoria Scott**, West Boothbay Harbor
Director of Communications, Penobscot School
- **John Stivers**, Ex-officio, Representative of the Commissioner of Education
ME Dept. of Education

A Maine Volunteer Service Symposium

Together by Design:



Lessons from Canada's Voluntary Sector Initiative

You Are Invited

To Participate In This Interactive Exploration



Monday, June 6, 2005

9:00 am to 4:00 p.m.

Buchanan Alumni House, University of Maine, Orono



Convened by

The Maine Commission for Community Service

and sponsoring partners

Maine Association of Nonprofits

Muskie School of Public Service,
University of Southern Maine

Maine Coastal Program,
State Planning Office

REALIZE!Maine

Maine Community College System

Maine Community Foundation

Maine Development Foundation

RSVP Deadline: May 25, 2005

Registration Fee: \$40

Register on-line at www.MainServiceCommission.gov then send receipt with fee to Maine Commission for Community Service, 38 State House Station, Augusta ME 04333-0038. Additional information is on the enclosed sample form.



Please review additional information on the next page.



- ★ **The Maine Commission for Community Service** is celebrating 10 Years of public leadership and support in Maine's volunteer sector. The Commission fosters collaboration among state agencies, colleges, universities, federal agencies, and community volunteer programs by serving as convener of organizations with common interests and catalyst for action on volunteer service initiatives.



- ★ **Canada's Voluntary Sector Initiative (VSI)** is a "co-managed experiment at building a working relationship between the federal [Canadian] government and the voluntary sector" which led to signing of an Accord between the two sectors and establishment of six joint work groups focused on specific areas: policy dialog, funding, information management and

technology, government regulations, volunteer sector capacity, and awareness. The Accord articulates the common values of both sectors, identifies principles for implementing the accord, and outlines the commitments by both to actions aimed at strengthening the partnership. The results of work by two groups produced "Codes of Practice" which implement the accord and take the government-voluntary sector relationship to a new level of partnership.

Why are the Commission and its partners convening this symposium?

The Maine volunteer sector is an essential part of every sustainable community. Through volunteer organizations and programs, citizens connect with each other, solve problems, and donate their time in order to stretch limited public and private financial resources. Yet, it is not formally recognized as a sector in public discussion or planning. Its identity and issues are subsumed under the category of "nonprofit".

The voluntary sector in Canada is not synonymous with the non-profit sector. It has been recognized as a distinct segment of community organizations. It is similar to businesses in Maine's "creative economy" that are a part of the private sector, but grapple with issues not necessarily addressed by the dominant business community.

The Voluntary Sector Initiative is rooted in the 2001 United Nations International Year of Volunteers. From 1999 to 2002, Canada, Australia, the United Kingdom, and the Republic of Ireland convened initiatives to strengthen the relationship between each country's government and its voluntary sector. These Initiatives were happening at the same time the concepts of social capital and civic engagement were emerging as themes in the United States.

Canada has gone the furthest with implementation among the countries that undertook the process. The Maine Commission for Community Service hopes to spark discussion about differentiating the volunteer sector and the larger nonprofit sector by exploring the 5-year experience of our Canadian neighbors with their help.

Who Should Come?

- ★ Volunteer and nonprofit organizational leadership
- ★ Government representatives who fund volunteer programs or rely on volunteers to accomplish mission-related services
- ★ Lawmakers, regulators, and civic leaders (towns, counties, and the State)
- ★ Private grantmakers, foundations, and corporate donation managers
- ★ University and College faculty with special interests in nonprofits, social capital, community development

Preparation Form for Online Reservation

"Together by Design", June 6, 2005

Please help us ensure name badges and materials are correct. Provide all information below when you are registering online.

Organization/company/department name:

Email address to which background information should be sent:

Name of person attending:

Title:

Phone: _____

Postal Address: _____

___Yes ___No May we include your contact information in a list of participants?

___Yes ___No Do you need any accommodation (visual, hearing, etc.) in order to participate in the Symposium?
If "yes", what assistance do you need?

To Register: Go to www.MaineServiceCommission.gov and select the link to the Symposium.

If you do not have internet access, you may complete this form and mail it with your check. Please note that non-internet reservations may delay receipt of the background information.

Presenters and Small Group Resource People:

Canadian Presenters* and Discussion Catalysts:

- ✳ *Marie Gauthier, *Director, Voluntary Sector Policy Unit, Community Development and Partnerships Directorate, Social Development Canada*
- ✳ *Penelope Rowe, *CEO, Community Services Council, Newfoundland and Labrador*
- ✳ *Cheryl O'Toole, *Director, Strategic Services stratégiques NB Region / Région du NB*
- ✳ *Rick Hutchins, *Project Animator, PolicyLink NB, Fredericton NB*
- ✳ Kim Hughes, *Director, Sustainable Development Branch, NB Dept of Environment & Local Government*
- ✳ Liz Burge, *Professor, Adult Education, UNB & Past President, Third Age Centre, St. Thomas University*
- ✳ Janet Greer-Langley, *Executive Director, Literacy Coalition of New Brunswick*
- ✳ Randy Hatfield, *CEO, Human Development Council, New Brunswick*
- ✳ Monica Chaperlin, *Coordinator, Business Community Anti-Poverty Initiative, Inc, St. John, NB*

American Presenter* and Discussion Hosts:

- ✳ *Kyle Caldwell, *President, Association of State Service Commissions President and CEO, ConnectMichigan Alliance*
- ✳ Steven Farnham, *Executive Director, Aroostook Agency on Aging*
- ✳ Daryl Fort, *Director of Community Development, Office of the Governor*
- ✳ Paula Gagnon, *Chair-Elect, Maine Commission for Community Service Vice President of Academic and Student Affairs, York County Community College*
- ✳ Sue Inches, *Deputy Director, Maine State Planning Office*
- ✳ Dale McCormick, *Executive Director, Maine State Housing Authority*
- ✳ Lynda Rohman, *Vice Chair, Maine Commission for Community Service Director, Volunteer Services, Eastern Maine Medical Center*
- ✳ Meadow Davis Slater, *Associate Director, Maine Association of Nonprofits*
- ✳ Bartlett H. Stoodley, *Associate Commissioner for Juvenile Services, Maine Dept. of Corrections*
- ✳ Lawrence Ullian, Ed. D., *Director of Public Welfare and Criminal Justice, Edmund S. Muskie School of Public Service, Institute for Public Sector Innovation, University of Southern Maine.*

Symposium Goals.

1. Engage in a *very* interactive process that permits Maine's strategic thinkers to consider what aspects of the Voluntary Sector Initiative might strengthen Maine's community volunteer sector.
2. Learn about the Voluntary Sector Initiative from key Canadian leaders:
 - What was the context and motivation for the VSI partners?
 - What are the key points of the Accord and Codes of Best Practice?
 - What effect has the VSI process and its products had on relations between the voluntary sector and Canadian government and the capacity of each to fulfill common goals?
 - What lessons have been learned through the experience of implementation?
3. Explore (in small group discussions) how the provincial volunteer sector and government work in 5 areas: environment, housing, literacy/education, public safety, and elder services. What best practices align with the Codes?
4. By reflecting on case studies from Newfoundland, Labrador, and New Brunswick, examine the possible benefits, challenges, and opportunities of developing a Maine initiative that incorporates aspects of the VSI Codes.

Preparation.

Participants are strongly urged to read 3 short documents: the Accord and both Codes of Best Practice. We will send an email link to everyone who registers. If you wish to explore the Voluntary Sector Initiative more thoroughly, visit www.MaineServiceCommission.gov or www.VolunteerMaine.org where there will be a link to the Canadian site.

Early Arrivals.

MCCS has arranged for a special room rate (\$50) at the Black Bear Inn, Interstate 95 Exit 193, Orono, for anyone who wishes to drive up the night before the symposium. Please contact the Inn directly (207.866.7120). Hotel expenses are not included in the Symposium fee and are the responsibility of participants.

To Register.

1. Go to www.MaineServiceCommission.gov and select the Symposium link. Complete the online form and print the receipt which will appear after you submit the form.
2. Mail \$40 (US) per person and the receipt to Symposium, Maine Commission for Community Service, 38 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333. Make checks payable to "Treasurer, State of Maine". Please add "MCCS Symposium" to the Memo line on your check.
3. If you will need assistance in order to participate fully in this Symposium (visual, hearing, etc.), please register at least 3 weeks before the event – by May 18 – so we can make the correct arrangements.

Questions?

Contact the Maine Commission for Community Service
Service.commission@maine.gov or 207.287-8931
187 State St., 38 State House Station, Augusta ME 04333

Symposium Framework

8:30 – 9:15 am	Registration and Continental Breakfast
9:15 – 9:30	Convene, Welcome Paula Gagnon, <i>Chair, Maine Commission for Community Service</i>
9:30 – 9:45	What Unites Us Today: Purpose and Common Ground Maryalice Crofton, <i>Executive Director, Maine Commission for Community Service</i>
9:45 – 10:05	The Voluntary Sector Initiative and the Accord Marie Gauthier, <i>Director, Voluntary Sector Policy Unit, Community Development and Partnerships Directorate, Social Development Canada</i>
10:05 – 10:20	The Voluntary Sector Initiative from an NGO perspective Penelope Rowe, <i>CEO, Community Services Council, Newfoundland and Labrador</i>
10:20 – 10:40	Moderated dialog with the Speakers: Questions from participants
10:40 – 10:50	Participant Break and move to discussion areas
10:50 – 11:30	Participant Discussions: 1. In Maine, could a visitor distinguish the voluntary sector from the nonprofit sector? How (what characteristics)? 2. Should the voluntary sector be treated as a distinct sector? When? Why? 3. From the points made by the speakers, what struck you as worth exploring? What points are relevant to Maine? 4. What might be the value of a VSI or Accord to Maine?
11:35 – 12:00	Moderated Report Outs from Discussions
12:00 – 12:45	Networking Lunch
12:45 – 1:10	Impressions and Insights Short comments from participants. Moderated open mike.
1:10 – 1:30	What it took to get here: The relationship between a State Government and Its Voluntary Sector Kyle Caldwell <i>President and CEO, ConnectMichigan Alliance</i> <i>President, Association of State Service Commissions</i>
1:30 – 1:50	Two Codes of Best Practice: Funding and Policy Dialog Cheryl O'Toole, <i>Director, Strategic Services stratégiques NB Region / Région du NB, Human Resource Development Commission</i>
1:50 – 2:10	Provincial Perspective: Rick Hutchins, <i>Project Animator, PolicyLink NB, Fredericton NB</i>
2:10 – 2:25	Questions from participants -- Moderated Open Mike
2:25 – 2:30	Break and Move. Participants select a case study of personal interest.



2:30 – 3:05	Provincial Case Studies of the Codes in action –presentations and dialog The aims of the exchange are to understand: ~ how volunteer organizations operate in the particular arena; ~ how provincial government and the voluntary sector related to each other 5 years ago particularly with regard to funding and policy dialog; ~ how the Codes of Best Practice have (or could) effected the working relationship. <u>Environment:</u> Guest, Kim Hughes, <i>Director, Sustainable Development Branch, NB Dept of Environment & Local Government</i> Host, Sue Inches, <i>Deputy Director, Maine State Planning Office</i> <u>Elder Services</u> Guest, Liz Burge, <i>Professor, Adult Education, UNB & Past President, Third Age Centre, St. Thomas University</i> Host, Steven Farnum, <i>Executive Director, Aroostook Area Agency on Aging</i> <u>Literacy/Education</u> Guest, Janet Greer-Langley, <i>Executive Director, Literacy Coalition of New Brunswick</i> Host, Daryl Fort, <i>Director of Community Development, Office of the Governor</i> <u>Housing</u> Guest, Randy Hatfield, <i>CEO, Human Development Council, St. John, NB</i> Host, Dale McCormick, <i>Executive Director, Maine State Housing Authority</i> <u>Public Safety, Emergency Preparedness</u> Guest, Monica Chaperlin, <i>Coordinator, Business Community Anti-Poverty Initiative, Inc, St. John, NB</i> Host, Barry Stoodley, <i>Associate Commissioner for Juvenile Services, ME Dept. of Corrections</i>
3:05 – 3:30	Implications for Maine. 25 min Discussion of implications. 1. If Maine or any state developed similar Codes of Best Practice... a. What might be the incentives for government and the volunteer sector to do so? b. What improvements, gains, positive changes might result? c. What would be the obstacles or challenges to development and use of Codes in states? d. Could the challenges be overcome? How? 2. What “Next Steps” (if any) would you recommend be taken? For the initial report out (proceedings will share everything), identify the most important point the group wants to share with other symposium participants. It may or may not be something that is reflected in earlier discussion.
3:30 – 3:50	Groups’ Key Points
3:50 – 4:00	Closing and Farewells